

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**

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**DATE:** December 8, 2004  
**TO:** Commission on EMS  
**FROM:** Richard E. Watson  
Interim Director

**PREPARED BY:** Carol Biancalana  
EMSC Coordinator

**SUBJECT:** Emergency Medical Services for Children Program Update

**RECOMMENDED ACTION (s)**

Receive information on Emergency Medical Services for Children Program.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

None

**DISCUSSION:**

The Northern California EMS for Children (EMSC) Conference, "Protecting Children & Their Families", held November 5, 2004 in Sacramento was a huge success despite a last minute change of location. Many thanks go to the EMSC Coordinators Conference Planning Committee for all of their help in stuffing conference bags, staffing the registration table and conducting the raffle along with the many small jobs that needed to be done. Highly skilled experts in the field of emergency medical care for children, including members of the EMSC Technical Advisory Committee, were gathered to present sessions on:

- Apparent Life Threatening Events;
- Submersion and Near Drowning;
- Safe Sleeping;
- Teenage Suicide;
- Pediatric Assessment/Growth and Development;
- Child Passenger Safety Transport;
- Challenging Pediatric Assessments;
- Children with Special Health Care Needs; and,
- Pediatric Trauma.

The conference was approved for 8 hours of Continuing Education credits for nurses, EMTs and paramedics. Approximately, 120 attended including prehospital providers, nurses and physicians.

The Emergency Guidelines for Schools document, as approved by the Commission on June 22, 2004, has been printed and delivered to the EMS Authority. Commissioners and local EMS administrators will receive a copy. One hard copy of the Guidelines will be sent to

all California schools districts along with a CD. The CD will contain the School Guidelines and a short orientation program. Also, a presentation will be made to the School Nurses Association at their annual conference in February to further promote use of the Guidelines.

The new EMSC Disaster Preparedness Assessment Committee held its first meeting, November 8, 2004. The Wilson Group, consultant to the project, will prepare a draft assessment tool that will be presented at the Committee's next meeting Tuesday, January 11, 2004. The disaster preparedness assessment tool will be reviewed in-depth and revised at this meeting. The Wilson Group will present the draft assessment tool during the Joint EMSC TAC/Coordinators meeting on Thursday, January 27, 2004. The EMSC and Hospital Bioterrorism Preparedness Programs are partnering on this project.

The EMSC Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will meet December 9, 2004 in San Francisco following the Commission on EMS meeting. The TAC will continue to review and revise the "Administration, Personnel and Policy Guidelines for Care of Pediatric Patients in the Emergency Department", EMSA #182 and begin discussions for the review of guidelines for General Trauma Centers with Pediatric Capabilities.

The EMSC Coordinators met November 4, 2004 prior to the EMSC Conference. After much discussion, the Coordinators Group recommended that one conference per year, alternating one year in the North and the following year in the South, was all the time and resources that each could devote to EMSC conferences.

The state pediatric ambulance list, "Prehospital Pediatric Equipment for BLS/ALS Support Units", EMSA #188, will be reviewed further at the Groups' January meeting. The Group is basing its review on the national policy of the American College of Emergency Physicians and the American College of Surgeons reflected in the consensus document "Equipment for Ambulances".